Amendments to Petroleum Regulatory Board Bill

1581. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recommendations of the Group of Ministers on the States' proposal of amendments to the Petroleum Regulatory Board Bill have been brought before the Cabinet;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the views of the State Government of Gujarat for two tier system i.e. Centre Regulatory and State Regulatory has not been incorporated in the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Bill/Act 2006; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) After taking into account the recommendations of the Group of Ministers on the draft Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board Bill, the same was approved by the Cabinet for introducing in the Parliament in December 2005. The Bill was passed by the Parliament in March 2006 and the Government has since notified the Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act on 3.4.2006.

(b) Yes. Sir.

(c) Petroleum & Natural Gas are subjects on the Union List and the Government of India has the exclusive jurisdiction to legislate on issues relating to them. The Act does not provide for two-tier regulation system or for setting up a state regulatory board.

Crude Production Target

†1582. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether any targets were fixed by Government for crude production in the country during 2005-06;

(b) if so, the details of respective targets fixed for each of the oil producing companies;

(c) the details of actual production achieved by each of the companies during the said period; and

(d) the details of additional capital investment made by these companies in the areas of oil exploration and production during the aforesaid period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) The two National Oil Companies, viz., Oil and natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL) as well as the Private Companies/ Joint Ventures (Pvt./JVs) are engaged in oil exploration and production in the country. The targets/projection for oil production by these companies and the actual production during 2005-06 are as follows:—

[In million metric tonnes(MMT)]

	Target/Projection	Actual
ONGC	26.614	24.406
OIL	3.3	3.23
Pvt. Cos./JVs	4.65	4.55

(d) During the period 2005-06, the investments made by ONGC and OIL in exploration and production activities were Rs. 9,874 crore and Rs. 898 crore respectively. The Pvt. Cos./JVs made an investment of US$ 389 million (Rs. 1,750 crore) for exploration and development in their producing fields, during this period.

Fixation of Gas Price

†1583. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.